

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01516 152220Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 IGA-01 AID-05 EUR-12 AGR-10 PA-02

INR-07 /055 W

----- 023027

R 152145Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9907

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1516

GUATEMALA FOR ROCAP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, IICA, CS

SUBJ: MAY IICA TECHNICAL BOARD MEETING IN OTTAWA

1. ING. MANUEL ELGUETA, DIRECTOR OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER (CATIE) AT TURRIALBA CALLED ON AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 13 TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER INFORMATION HE HAS RECEIVED AND DOCUMENTS HE HAS SEEN REGARDING DISCUSSIONS BY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IICA WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA AIMED AT TERMINATING 1970 AGREEMENT BETWEEN IICA AND UNIVERSITY TO SUPPORT CATIE FOR A 10-YEAR PERIOD. THESE TALKS APPEAR AIMED AT MORE RAPID DISSOLUTION OF CATIE (AS EARLY AS JUNE 1976) AND CREATION OF A TROPICAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY AND A REGIONAL CENTER OF UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA AT TURRIALBA CENTER. ELGUETA STRESSED THAT CATIE CANNOT PLAN FOR FUTURE WITH AN UNCERTAIN TENURE NOR CAN IT SOLICIT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. ELGUETA THINKS THIS ISSUE MAY NOT BE BROUGHT UP AT MAY IICA TECHNICAL BOARD MEETING IN OTTAWA BECAUSE DIRECTOR GENERAL PROBABLY WILL NOT BE FULLY PREPARED BY THAT TIME. DIRECTOR GENERAL RECENTLY LEFT ON EXTENDED TRIP AND WILL RETURN ONLY DAYS PRIOR TO MAY MEETING. ELGUETA ASKED IF AMBASSADOR COULD REQUEST THAT U.S. DELEGATION SEEK TO PUT ISSUE ON AGENDA FOR MAY MEETING SO THAT THE QUESTION OF CATIE'S TENURE CAN BE SETTLED NOW. IF ISSUE NOT DISCUSSED THIS YEAR,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01516 152220Z

CATIE FEELS THAT ITS FUTURE WILL BE IN LIMBO FOR ANOTHER

YEAR UNTIL NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

2. AMBASSADOR WAS SURPRISED BY THIS REVELATION HAVING VISITED WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IICA TWO WEEKS EARLIER AND HAVING VISITED CENTER AT TURRIALBA SAME WEEK. ON THOSE OCCASIONS, HE GATHERED THAT IICA WAS SATISFIED WITH THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH CATIE ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT WORRIED ABOUT CATIE'S ABILITY TO OBTAIN FUNDS IN FUTURE WITH IICA'S CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULED TO GRADUALLY DIMINISH OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS AND THEN LEVEL OFF. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT THE TENURE OF THE CENTER WAS OF INTEREST TO USG BECAUSE OF PAST AND PROJECTED AID AND OTHER USG CONTRIBUTIONS TO CATIE.

3. MEMBERS OF AID MISSION HAVE ALSO PICKED UP REPORT OF POSSIBLE DISSOLUTION OF CATIE AND CREATION OF A REGIONAL UNIVERSITY AT TURRIALBA.

4. EMBASSY FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT QUESTION OF MORE RAPID THAN PREVIOUSLY PROGRAMMED REDUCTION IN IICA SUPPORT FOR CATIE AND FUTURE OF CATIE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN OTTAWA NEXT MONTH AND THAT ELGUETA SHOULD BE INVITED TO PRESENT CATIE'S POSITION. ON RECENT VISIT TO TURRIALBA, AMBASSADOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF MISSION GAINED IMPRESSION THAT RESEARCH EFFORTS AT TURRIALBA ARE BECOMING MORE PRACTICAL PROBLEM ORIENTED AND THAT RESULTS (I.E. MULTIPLE CROPPING) COULD HAVE FAR REACHING IMPACT ON CENTRAL AMERICAN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND ASSISTANCE TO RURAL POOR. EMBASSY NOT PREPARED TO ENDORSE EITHER CATIE'S POSITION OR IICA'S POSITION AT THIS TIME, BUT BELIEVES THAT IT IS IN USG INTEREST TO SEE ISSUE AIRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

TODMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RESEARCH, AGRICULTURE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO01516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750132-0184
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750451/aaaabuti.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAY IICA TECHNICAL BOARD MEETING IN OTTAWA
TAGS: PORG, TECH, EAGR, CS, XM, OAS, (ELGUETA, MANUEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006